

VICTORIA - Highlights from Household Expenditure Survey 2003-04

By state:

- Households in Victoria recorded the fourth highest average weekly expenditure (\$888).
- Victoria also had the fourth highest level of gross household income (\$1,134 a week).
- Between 1998-99 and 2003-04, total expenditure on goods and services in Victoria increased by 24%, the lowest increase of any State.
- Victoria did not record the highest expenditure in any broad expenditure category.
- Victoria recorded the lowest expenditure on household furnishings and equipment (\$46 a week).
- At the detailed expenditure items level, Victoria had the highest expenditure on women's clothing (\$12 a week) and on higher education fees (\$10 a week).
- Significant increases in expenditure over the five years from 1998-99 were on internet charges (up 445%), pay TV (up 318%), mobile telephone charges (up 213%), higher education fees (up 134%) and the interest component of mortgage repayments (up 44%).

Differences in demographic characteristics of households help to explain Victoria's relatively high levels of expenditure. These factors include:

- Victoria had a relatively high proportion of households with wages and salaries income as the principal source of income (59%).
- Victoria had a relatively high average number of people per household (2.6).

By capital city:

- Comparing each broad category of goods and services expenditure, Melbourne had the second highest expenditures on clothing and footwear (\$42 a week) and on tobacco (\$12 a week).
- Melbourne recorded the lowest expenditure on household furnishings and equipment (\$45 a week).
- At the detailed expenditure items level, Melbourne had the highest expenditures on women's clothing (\$13 a week) and on primary, secondary and higher education fees (\$26 a week).
- Significant increases in expenditure over the five years from 1998-99 were on internet charges (up 707%), pay TV (up 313%), mobile telephone charges (up 209%) and higher education fees (up 144%).

| | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. | NT | ACT | Aust. |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Average weekly expenditure (\$) | 938 | 888 | 820 | 814 | 871 | 753 | 1,038 | 1,052 | 883 |
| Mean gross household income per week (\$) | 1,212 | 1,134 | 1,036 | 1,033 | 1,098 | 897 | 1,401 | 1,399 | 1,128 |

Extract from Tables 25 and 26 of Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Summary of Results, 2003-04 (cat. no. 6530.0).

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